

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02438 190747Z

12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

AID-05 /074 W
----- 088926

R 171140Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4710
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 2438

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, SW, ET
SUBJECT: VISIT OF ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TO SWEDEN

REF: ADDIS ABABA 4811 (NOTAL); STOCKHOLM 2216

1. ETHIOPIAN "GOODWILL" DELEGATION VISITED STOCKHOLM
MAY 6-7, PRINCIPALLY TO DETERMINE WHAT GOS WAS THINKING ABOUT
POLITICAL CHANGES IN ETHIOPIA, ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCES. TWO
CHIEF MEMBERS OF MISSION WERE MICHAEL IMRU, FORMER
ETHIOPIAN PRIME MINISTER, AND PEKALIGN GEDAMU, MINISTER OF
COMMUNICATIONS. MISSION ASKED FOR CONTINUATION OF SWEDISH
AID TO ETHIOPIA AND LEFT CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT INCREASE IN
LEVEL WOULD BE WELCOME. GROUP WAS RECEIVED BY AID MINISTER
GERTRUD SIGURDSEN, ACTING AS FOREIGN MINISTER IN
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ABSENCE OF LATTER.

2. ACCORDING TO SAVE-SODERBERGH, MFA AID OFFICER, DELEGATION DESCRIBED PROCESS OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE AS COMPLICATED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND ESPECIALLY COMPLICATED IN POOR COUNTRY LIKE ETHIOPIA. GROUP EXPRESSED HOPE OF DRAWING UPON SWEDISH EXPERIENCE IN BUILDING NEW INSTITUTIONS. MISSION WARMLY COMPLIMENTED SWEDISH AID PROGRAM FOR BEING DIRECTED TO NEEDS OF POOREST.

3. LIUNGMAN, SECOND POLITICAL DIVISION, TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOS PRESENTLY HAS WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE TOWARD GOVERNMENT CHANGES IN ETHIOPIA. SWEDES REGARD PROMISED LAND REFORM AS ENCOURAGING, SINCE MAIN OBSTACLE TO ENLARGEMENT OF LONG-ESTABLISHED SWEDISH AID PROGRAM THERE, LARGELY AGRICULTURAL IN CHARACTER, HAS BEEN FAILURE OF ETHIOPIANS TO IMPLEMENT LAND REFORM. HOWEVER, IMPROVEMENT IN THIS AREA HAS NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED AND OFFICIAL SWEDISH ATTITUDE TOWARD ETHIOPIA WILL BE INFLUENCED STRONGLY BY HOW FAR AND FAST REFORM PROCEEDS. MOREOVER, IT COULD BE COMPLICATED BY CRITICAL SWEDISH PUBLIC OPINION CONCERNING NEW ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT OF ERITREA.

4. SAVE-SODERBERGH DESCRIBED DELEGATION'S MESSAGE TO GOS AS "VAGUE".
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STOCKH02438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750175-0278
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750540/aaaabkgk.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ADDIS ABABA 4811, 75 (NOTA STOCKHOLM 2216
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TO SWEDEN
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, SW, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006